Projected Growth Of Trade During 2006-07

877. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:
SHRIMATI MOHSINA KIDWAI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the projected growth of trade during 2006-2007 in view of many bilateral agreements concluded during 2005;

(b) how far these bilateral agreements will enable India to secure high technology and promote joint ventures during 2006-2007; and

(c) as SAFTA (South Asian Free Trade Agreement) has taken concrete shape, what percentage of increase in regional trade is expected during 2006-2007 due to its implementation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) One of the important components of the bilateral agreements signed so far is tariff concessions on selected products. Such agreements are expected to result in augmentation of overal trade over a period of time. No specific projection of growth of trade can, however, be made as a result of these agreements for 2006-07.

(b) Joint ventures are promoted by the industry of the partner countries. Bilateral trade agreements only act as facilitators.

(c) Operationalisation of SAFTA from 1st July, 2006 is expected to boost intra SAARC trade but the percentage of increase cannot be quantified at this stage.

Constitution of Inter-ministerial task force on exporters' Issues

878. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government has decided to constitute an inter-ministerial task force to resolve the issues of exporters in the country; and

(b) if so, when the task force will be constituted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH): (a) and (b) The Government is